

M.E.S.  
ALUMNAE

THE NEWS-OF-THE-SCHOOL

S.P.H.E.  
ALUMNI

Published quarterly  
By the Office

Toronto  
December 1943

Vol. XI, No. 2

Another News Letter already! Some day the number of News Letters per year may have to be cut, but not yet. At any rate the Christmas Letter is always fun to write, so why drop it? Our artist, as you may have guessed, is Shirley Naylor McCatty. Isn't the set-up attractive? With only seventeen graduates so far in the School of Physical and Health Education, there is not enough news in the month and a half since the last News Letter to give them a separate news section. This issue is therefore the same for every one, but no one has to read the parts in which she is not interested. May we qualify that statement. We hope that you will all read the paragraphs on National Physical Fitness and "Of Things to Come", whether you are interested or not. Read them to become interested. If you still are not interested, read them again.

The old M.E.S.-E.G.C.-S.P.H.E. building has had its face lifted, not the face it shows to the world but the one that it keeps specially for those who pass through the swinging doors into the wide hall within. Formerly it was a dark, forbidding face that greeted every one, and no one could guess on entering the gloomy hallway inside the main door that the old building was really a house of friendliness, that gay, laughing girls gather there and find comradeship and happiness within its walls. Now all is changed. The black woodwork in the main hall has been painted pinky white (the colour of a bride's blush satin!), trimmed with a line of red. The frame of the tapestry is gray and the chesterfields are covered with a gay chintz of gray and red. The part of the hall near the main stairs has been made into a real reception room with a Persian rug, chesterfield, a low table with magazines, and chairs. The furniture has been bleached and a tall screen shuts off the still black woodwork beyond the fountain. The effect is particularly nice in the evening when the lights are on. We will admit the daytime appearance is not so effective, as the screen shuts off some of the light and there never was very much daylight, but - come and see it for yourselves!

Have you heard of the new course in Literature and Expression given in the Second Year? There is no guarantee given with it, but we hope that the students who take it will learn to love good reading, public speaking and writing reports and letters, even letters of application no less! Mr. C.R. Sanderson, head of the Toronto Public Libraries is giving the course and judging by the students' remarks he certainly is making it interesting. He gives them a list of books from which to choose and hopes they will read three a week. As one girl said, "I can read now with a clear conscience". Mr. Sanderson's idea seems to be, to have the students understand the philosophy of different writers and how this philosophy is expressed in their books. They read not only the books a man writes, but also books about him, - his wife's idea of him, his own account of his early life, his character from the viewpoint of a friend. One period a week is spent in public speaking, the students take turns

491



speaking, for four minutes each, on various topics of interest to them all and usually connected with their course or with university life. These are criticized before the end of the period by Mr. Sanderson.

Speaking of books, the Margaret Eaton library has been taken into the University library. One of the librarians came over and accessioned the books, classifying them in a much simpler way than was done before. They are now much easier to find and to keep in place. By the way, do you suppose anyone who is reading this ever borrowed a book from our library that she forgot to return? Of course that is impossible, but take a look in that almost forgotten box of books or through those shelves, and if you should happen to find one with The Margaret Eaton School stamp on it, we would be so thankful to get it back, we would never say a word! Among those missing are Vol. II of Eli Bjorksten's Principles of Gymnastics and the 1939 volume of bound Journals of Physical and Health Education.

Do you remember the sinking feeling you had when you read early in the war, that over 40% of the men in Canada who enlisted were turned down because they were not physically fit? For a long time physical education and its leaders in Canada have not had much chance to show what they could do. Now their opportunity has come. On October 1st, the National Physical Fitness Act was proclaimed by the Dominion Government. Information on the provisions of the Act has been sent to the minister of health in each province by Dr. J.J. Heagerty, director of public health services for Canada, and each province has been asked for immediate action. No matter how small your position in the scheme of things may be, you have a part to play in this most important forward step. Here are a few suggestions of things you may do to help.

1. Be informed. Send 10 cents to the King's Printer, Ottawa, for a copy of the Act.
2. Talk about the National Physical Fitness Act with your co-workers, with your friends. Other organizations will be interested too.
3. If you have a local physical education association, let the president know that you feel your association should back anything the provincial association does to make this movement a success.
4. If there is no local association, write to the provincial association and show that they have your support in the matter.
5. and 6. Are you a member of the Canadian Physical Education Association? Are you a member of the physical education association of your own province? You surely can see the importance now of belonging to these organizations.

"Of Things to Come" is a series of half-hour broadcasts (as you probably know) over the CBC National Network each Tuesday evening. The CBC presents various problems over the radio in the hope that small groups everywhere will discuss them afterwards. Two broadcasts have been given and we have heard that there are 100 groups already organized in Hamilton and 200 in Toronto. The Canadian Association for Adult Education has prepared study material which will be sent to each member of a Citizens' Forum, as many of the groups are called. Some of the subjects to be studied are, "One People-Two Cultures-a basis for unity between French-speaking and English-speaking Canadians", "Canadians - World Citizens", "The Right to be Healthy" (as they would say on the street, "right up our alley!") Join a group, go to at least some of the discussions, and take part.

The Margaret Eaton School Alumnae continues its good work for the war effort and for social service. The latter takes the form chiefly of knitting and other gifts for the babies at the Victor Home....The "Maggie E." is still the chief point of interest and as the crew changes from time to time, there is always a need for new knitted articles. By the way, have you done any knitting for us lately? This war is not over yet and many things are needed. Blue and gray wool as well as wool for babies' things may be had at the school.....The monthly meeting at Gladys Needham's was well attended in spite of showers without and within! The real "shower" was of gifts for the grab bag to be sent to the ship for Christmas and many articles were received. Jack Gallimore



from the crew of the sub-chaser was there and told us a lot about the boat that we did not know before.....It was decided that donations for the Christmas baskets, which will be as welcome as ever, should be left at Edith Amsden's, 95 Howland Avenue, where the Packing Party will be held on Tuesday evening, December 21st at 8:15. Gifts of clothes, toys, food or money will be appreciated.....The December meeting was held at Peggy Pringle Burnet's when those present each brought a darning needle, used it to button-hole the half squares for the new afghan they are making and then donated it to the Prisoners of War boxes. The afghan pieces are cut from men's old socks. Have you any, socks or needles, you would like to give to the Alumnae?.....Mary Elizabeth Wright, the secretary of the Alumnae Association, has enlisted with the Red Cross for overseas service, and Mrs. S.C. Burnet (Peggy Pringle), 439 Parkside Drive, has been appointed in her place....Lois Heaton, the President, says, "Please thank the out-of-town girls who have sent in their fees. It's a great help to get this money (from in- or out-of-town graduates) and to feel that they are interested."

#### MISS SOMERS ON HER HOLIDAY AT BANFF

I gladly recommend a month in Banff to any of you who would like to pursue your hobby, provided of course that you have the right hobby. The Banff School of Fine Arts, conducted by the Extension Department of the University of Alberta, holds courses every summer in the Drama, Painting, Music, Weaving and Design, and French. A very excellent staff is assembled there and the usual student body numbers several hundred. Those who took Painting this summer were fortunate in having A.Y. Jackson and W.J. Phillips among the instructors. The Weaving teachers were Mrs. Henderson of Winnipeg and Mrs. Sandyn of Edmonton.

I went there to take Weaving, which is fast becoming a hobby of mine. True I have no loom to work on during the winter, but there is just the right place for one in the old summer kitchen down on Cape Cod. I hope many of you are going to come to see it, and me, after the war. At Banff, we wove from 9 to 12, and 1:30 to 4 every day, 9 to 12 on Saturdays. Before the end of the month our work became so fascinating that we went back some evenings, and even Saturdays and Sundays to "throw the shuttle". You will admit it must have been a very strong appeal, if you know Banff and the call of the mountains all around. However, it was a wonderful treat for me just to live within that circle of mountains and be able to gaze at them every day and evening, and to take many short walks out from Banff.

Besides making a number of small articles, I wove 5½ yards of cloth, both plain and striped, which I was very proud of. The teachers liked it too, because they sent it off to some craft exhibitions in Quebec, and I am still hoping that I will get it back some day, when I can have a suit made from it.

Florence A. Somers

#### SOCIAL AND NEWS NOTES:

Social functions in the School of Physical and Health Education are taken care of by the Physical and Health Education Association, which includes the whole student body of the School. The October meeting took the form of a Camp Night, held at the Women's Union, when Mr. E.A. Chapman, president of the Ontario Camping Association, spoke on "Modern Trends in Camping", and camp pictures were shown.

A Scavenger Hunt on November 24th, followed by an informal dance in the School gymnasium at 415 Yonge Street, was one of the most successful parties they have had. About 40 boys from S.P.S. (School of Practical Science) were invited to make up for the shortage in our own course and a Paul Jones soon made everyone feel at home. Rolls



and wieners, chocolate milk and cake sustained the inner man, a radio with records provided the musical inspiration and everything went with a swing. No powder on the gym. floor either!

Miss Lillian Pollard of St. Thomas's Hospital, London, England, who was on the staff of The Margaret Eaton School in the early 30's teaching Massage and Remedial Gymnastics has returned to Canada to take charge of the Physiotherapy Department of the University. All Miss Pollard's friends are delighted to see her again. She brought us the sad news that Miss Lesley Urwick who came over from England at the same time and taught Swimming and English Country Dancing, died this fall after a long illness.

Major Mary Barker came in to see us upon her return recently from England. We congratulate Mary on her promotion to the rank of Major. She has been posted to M.D.1 in London, Ont. Mary told us of her visit with Mollie Gordon Reid and her interesting family at her home in Scotland. She also gave us news of Netta Morrison Kennedy. Before Mary went overseas, Netta went with her to one of the big military camps in Western Ontario and entertained with her bagpipes and her dancing, not only the 50 odd C.W. A.C.'s, but the thousands of service men in the camp. She taught the Pipe Band a piece and she learned a piece from them, and altogether was a great success.

Elizabeth Bleakney wrote most enthusiastically to Miss Somers recently of her work at Crofton House School in Vancouver. She and Sylvia Collier-Wright often play badminton together. Where, oh where, do you get your birds, Elizabeth?

Flight Officer Diana Cameron has been chosen to go to London, England, to help organize recreation in that city for the R.C.A.F., men and women. Congratulations, Diana!

Betty Donovan enlisted in the R.C.A.F. (W.D.) in July and after 3 weeks basic training, was put in the precision squad, where she has been ever since, stationed at Rockcliffe. As soon as the squad is broken up she expects to take the wireless training.

Norah Gauld Wistow writes that she and Flora Secord Davidson are both living in Pembroke to be near their husbands who, we gather, are stationed at Petawawa. Norah says, "We spend many an happy hour reminiscing about Margaret Eaton days. Flora has a lovely boy, Jimmy, and we alternate days giving him his "work-out".

Connie Gray, 4T3, is at H.M.C.S. Conestoga, Galt, taking her basic training in the W.R. C.N.S., but expects to be moved elsewhere soon.

Pearl Flatt Walgate and her husband, Capt. R.G. Walgate, are living in Port Arthur since Capt. Walgate had to give up his commission with the Lake Superior Regiment (Motor) on account of deafness. He is now Excise Tax Auditor for the district from the Manitoba boundary to Sault Ste. Marie.

Barbara Halliday has completed her course at Trenton and, much to her delight, has been posted back to her same squadron at Rockcliffe.

Peggy Hickey has finished her basic training in the W.R.C.N.S. at Galt and is now taking her category training. She expects to get home for Christmas.

Another visitor recently was Wren Barbara Jones, who has been transferred from Halifax to Toronto and is now at 146 Crescent Road where she is a regulator. Barbara reported that she had seen June MacIntosh, and Carol Hendry who is a sub-lieutenant, and that Dorothy Leggett is with the R.C.A.F. (W.D.), Eastern Air Command, Halifax.

We were glad to have a call from Mary Kier, ex-4T5, who has just completed her wireless course with the R.C.A.F. (W.D.) and has been posted to the west coast. Mary brought us



news of Joan MacMillan, who was in Montreal, but is now at Trenton taking an administrative course.

Betty McCanmon has taken a position with Kops Bros. for the winter months.

Norah MacLennan has accepted a position as a counsellor in the personnel department of the Toronto Transportation Commission and at present is acquiring a personal knowledge of the difficulties of women employees when driving a bus, a street car or being a conductor. Her work sounds very interesting and certainly different.

Winn MacLennan Johnston is in the city while her husband, Wing Commander Johnston, is in Christie St. Hospital recovering from an attack of poliomyelitis, which he suffered while on a tour of inspection of R.A.F. schools in the Southern States. Winn spent some time with him in Texas until he was able to travel and then flew back with him to Toronto. We are glad to report that Wing Commander Johnston is making a good recovery. Winn is staying with Jean Thomas at 603 Huron Street.

Captain Mona Miller Tomalin has returned from overseas and has been posted to Ste. Arne de Bellevue where she is second in command, No. 1 C.W.A.C. Advanced Training Centre.

Flora Morrison has finished her course at the Institute for Child Study and has received an appointment to the War Time Day Nursery at Scarboro.

We sympathize greatly with Margaret Nicholson in the death overseas of her fiancé, P. O. Jack Thurlow. Margaret has accepted a position with War Time Housing Ltd.

Dorothy O'Neill Earle, Mr. Earle and Jimmy have left Centre Island for the winter and are living at 75 Broadway Avenue, Toronto, Hy. 8312.

Joyce O'Neill, who has been in Canada ever since the war broke out, has returned to her home at Saltburn-by-Sea, Yorkshire, England.

Born, at Kingston, on November 8, 1943, to Major Roland C.W. Hooper and Mrs. Hooper, (Louise Proctor) a daughter.

Born to Anne Ross Thompson and Mr. Thompson, on October 27, a daughter, Susan Stoneham.

Margaret Ross has given up her inspection work with Research Enterprises Ltd. and has gone home to Moose Jaw for Christmas.

Sheila Ryan has accepted a position with the Catholic School Commission in Montreal.

Elizabeth Saccombe was married on July 31, 1943 in Timothy Eaton Memorial Church, to Dr. James A. Turner, who received his degree in medicine from the University of Toronto the same day. Dr. Turner is interning at present and Elizabeth is keeping on with her work in the New Toronto Y.W.C.A.

Pauline Sellar writes enthusiastically as usual of her work in Regina. She says, "Last year at this time (Oct. 18) we thought 412 members was a real job. This year at the same time we have around 876. It is making changes in the department too- for instance, I now have my own part time stenographer, my assistant is on a full time basis this year, and we have to have a third person to do all life guard duty during plunges. We have started 3 Leaders' Corps this year- Juniorettes (13-15 years), Juniors (15-18) and Seniors over 18. Altho they are a great deal of work, they are a lot of help to us too."

Muriel Sinclair wrote her R.N. examinations in November and at present is floor nurse



on the 8th floor of the Toronto General Hospital,, Private Patients' Pavilion.

Hilda Smith writes that she has completed her nurse's training, has written her R.N. examinations and is now doing private nursing in Goderich, Ont.

A clipping from a Duncan B.C. paper tells us that Kay Staples suffered internal injuries while skiing last winter which necessitated an operation in Regina in the spring and meant she had to resign her commission in the air force. As Kay had just been promoted to the rank of flight officer, this was particularly unfortunate. We understand that Kay is now working in Norman Wells, N.W.T. with the Imperial Oil Co.

A note from Sam Stellman 4T3, tells us that he expects to go from the Brantford camp to Camp Borden. His address at the time of writing was B632277, Pte. Stellman, S., B Co'y, B3, #20 B.T.C. Brantford, and we feel sure he would appreciate letters from his university friends.

Patty Sterne Sanders will have the sympathy of everyone in the death overseas of her youngest brother, John, of the R.C.A.F. He was reported missing in August, but just lately word has come through from the International Red Cross that he was killed and buried in France.

Major Doris Weston and Captain Ann Bartlet of the C.W.A.C. are in Great Britain on attachment to the A.T.S. for instruction.

Elsbeth Wilson Emmet has taken a position with the Wartime Housing, Tenant Relations, St. Catharines, Ont.

Any Wingate was married this fall to Joseph H. Noonan of Ottawa. They are living at 2 Sweetland Avenue, Ottawa.

Mildred Wickson is a very busy person these days, with her dancing classes and her work training the chorus for the Merry-Go-Round, a girls' company that entertains the services. Mildred is also doing solo work for the same troupe.

We extend our sincere sympathy to:

Gladys Baker in the death of her father, Mr. Frank Baker, on Friday, December 3rd.  
Kathleen Johnson, whose mother, Mrs. George Johnson, passed away on Friday  
November 19th.

It hardly seems possible that for the fifth time we are sending you our Christmas greetings while the war still makes heavy hearts all over the world. Perhaps the turmoil and sorrow that are all around us will bring out in strong relief the joy and love and peace of the Christmas message that comes to us as we celebrate the anniversary of the birth of the Christ child. Our wish for you all at this Christmas season is that this Christmas prayer of Eugene Field's may be answered in your hearts:

"Come thou, dear Prince! Oh, come to us this Christmas time! Come to the busy marts of Earth, the quiet homes, the noisy street, the humble lanes; come to us all, and with Thy love, touch every human heart that we may know that love, and in its blessed peace bear charity to all mankind."

*Charlotte H. Layton*





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